

REP. KATE HOGAN'S SENIOR NEWS



A season of light and giving

Dear Friends,

We all know how one small word can transform how we think about the holidays. So, what if instead of simply being the season of giving, it was the season of giving *back*? I know that the holidays can be a particularly challenging season for so many reasons. I also know that service is at the center of our community: it's vital to who we are. This community-minded spirit inspires me as a lawmaker.

That's why this December I want to issue a gentle challenge to our community: how can you be a source of light for others this holiday season? Retirement can be a powerful time to share your talents and make a difference in our community. It's been a privilege to talk with seniors in Maynard about how they found time in retirement to serve on local boards and volunteer their expertise and time. They tell me that volunteering as a senior isn't just an opportunity for service, but an opportunity to learn and connect.

I have found that even in life's fullness we can make time for new traditions. How about this giving season beginning a new holiday tradition of volunteerism? Share an hour, a laugh, a meal. Your talents are the light someone needs right now, in our own community. Feeling inspired? Here are some organizations doing great work in our town:

Open Table: Providing nutritious food and community since 1989, Open Table runs weekly dinners and a Maynard food pantry to anyone in need of a hand-up. With only one full-time and four part-time staff members, volunteers are the lynchpin of their day-to-day operations. Visit www.opentable.org/volunteer or email volunteer@opentable.org to learn more about how you can get involved.

Maynard Community Chest: Run entirely by volunteers, the Maynard Community Chest works to support a network of seventeen local nonprofit organizations providing a broad range of essential human services. Their work truly makes a difference in the lives of those in our town. Lend your hands, time, and skills to a cause you care about. Visit their website at maynardchest.org/volunteer or email their volunteer coordinator at info@maynardchest.org.

Boys and Girls Club of Assabet Valley: The Boys and Girls Club of Assabet Valley fosters a safe space for young people to learn, connect, and grow. They are always looking for more volunteers who enjoy working with and supporting kids. Learn more about their programs and opportunities by emailing lynch@bgcav.org or visiting their website at www.bgcav.org.

Rep. Hogan's Office Hours

- Office Hours will be by appointment-only during the month of December. If you would like to meet, or if you have any issues or concerns, please contact my office at 617-722-2130 to schedule an appointment.
- In addition to Rep. Hogan's office hours, her staff is available in the District Office at Maynard Town Hall, 195 Main Street, on Mondays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (*Closed Holiday Mondays*)

Kate Hogan

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Proudly represents Bolton, Hudson, Maynard, and Stow

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